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PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS volume contains a selection from the Proceedings of the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, from the Annual Meeting in April, 1867, to the Monthly Meeting in March, 1869, inclusive.

The engraved plate, from which the portrait of Mr. Sparks in this volume was struck off, was kindly placed at the service of the Society by Mrs. Sparks. It was engraved by J. Andrews, from an unfinished picture by Stuart, and is here published for the first time.

The engraved portrait of Judge Story, and that of President Felton, were furnished by the families of those distinguished members. The former was engraved by Cheney, from a crayon drawing by W. W. Story, and was published in the "Life and Letters of Judge Story," in 1851. The latter was engraved by J. Wright Smith, from a daguerrotype, and was published in 1867, in President Felton's work, entitled "Greece, Ancient and Modern: Lectures delivered before the Lowell Institute."

CHARLES DEANE,
For the Committee of Publication.

BOSTON, June 1, 1869.